

REA WIRING AND INSPECTION PROGRAM

I. PURPOSE

A. To provide:

- (1) Adequate and safe wiring on consumers' premises of borrowers' systems.
 - a. Provide borrowers protection against legal action which might result from hazardous installations.
- (2) Set up uniform standards for material and workmanship,
- (3) Plans and assistance for reduction of cost by group arrangement.
- (4) Assurance of maximum consumers connected upon energization of distribution lines.
- (5) Assistance to borrowers in establishing permanent plans for a continued safe and adequate wiring and inspection program.

II. PRESENT STATUS

- A. The program is only partially effective at present because of:
 - (1) Scarcity of manpower and materials.
 - (2) Limited REA personnel.
 - (3) Lack of regional supervision.
 - (4) Necessity for up-to-date specifications, instructions, and other informational data.
 - (5) Failure of borrowers to recognize importance of carrying on farmstead wiring and inspection program.
 - (6) Lack of comprehension on part of members for need of well-planned wiring installations.

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III. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REGIONAL SUPERVISION AND PARTICIPATION

- A. Each region to assume responsibility for conducting field activities in all phases of this program.
 - (1) To coordinate its activities with the wiring specialists by carrying to the field the developments presented by wiring and inspection specialists, and by supplying the specialists with appropriate information from the field which may, in turn, be used in the overall development of the program.
 - (2) Office records.
 - a. For each cooperative, list names, addresses, and type of inspector (independent or cooperative employee).
 - b. Service entrance or Meter Loop Policy--whether furnished by cooperative or member.
 - (3) Inspectors are to be approved by St. Louis office.

IV. FIELD REPRESENTATIVES' RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Study all instructional and procedure data on wiring and inspection and to obtain first-hand knowledge of adequate and safe wiring through visit with wiring inspector to actual farms being inspected.

 Also become familiar with good lighting practices.
- B. Acquaint extension service personnel and vocational training personnel with program.
- C. Assist cooperative in formulating wiring and inspection policy.
 - (1) Service Entrance (whether furnished by cooperative or by member). Explain REA policy and recommend that borrowers furnish meter loops without cost to consumer. Reasons for cooperative furnishing service entrance:
 - a. Uniformity of construction up to and including service ground.

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- b. Protection of cooperatives' equipment (meters, transformers, etc.)
- c. Permits greater expenditure by member for inside
 wiring. A material benefit to members; entrance not
 generally furnished to private utility customers.
- d. Automatic check on loading conditions.
- e. Gives cooperative bargaining power in negotiations for low cost house wiring.
- (2) Inspection--Determine whether qualified inspector (independent or cooperative-employee) is available for inspection service, -if not, set proper procedure in motion for training and qualifying inspector. If there is a backlog in inspections to be made, this program should be brought up-to-date. Recommend that cooperative furnish free inspection of additional wiring where inspector is cooperative-employee.

Check records of inspector as to:

- a. Type of inspection
- b. Time required for each inspection
- c. Testing equipment used

Determine ability of inspector to meet future demands placed on him during an expanded construction program.

(3) Wiring and Lighting Installation - If insufficient number of wiremen are available, assist cooperative in promoting training schools or arranging for outside contractors. Check availability of wiring materials and help locate additional source, if necessary. Assist in holding contractor meetings to secure

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IV. FIELD REPRESENTATIVES' RESPONSIBILITIES - (Continued)

C. (3) (Continued)

approved fair prices. Urge the cooperative officials to hold membership meetings:

- a. To acquaint members with advantages of adequate wiring
- b. To provide a list of approved contractors
- c. To supply a schedule of established prices
- d. To obtain individual contracts between members and approved contractors.

Have the cooperative arrange for suitable publicity. Advise with cooperative officials regarding their consideration of a full-time employee to coordinate the system activities on Wiring, Inspection, Plumbing, Farm Equipment, and Consumer Education Programs.

D. Section 5 Loans

(1) Advise with borrower and regional head where need is shown for section 5 loans in connection with the wiring program.

V. SUPPORTING PUBLICATIONS AND PROGRAM -- DATA ON WIRING, LIGHTING AND INSPECTION

- A. Manual of Wiring Procedure
 - (1) To be issued by December 1
- B. Procedure for furnishing and Installing of Meter Loops
 - (1) Will also include contract and inventory forms
 - (2) To be available on December 1
- C. REA Wiring Specifications
 - (1) First 5000 copies issued. Reprint available by November 1
- D. Wiring and Lighting Bulletin
 - (1) To be available by First of 1946

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- V. SUPPORTING PUBLICATIONS AND PROGRAM -- DATA ON WIRING, LIGHTING AND INSPECTION (Continued)
 - E. Bulletin on Safe and Adequate Wiring
 - (1) Planned for quarterly publications to begin soon

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